

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 SP-02 STR-04
TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 USIA-06 XMB-02
OPIC-03 FEA-01 INT-05 DLOS-09 OES-07 /096 W
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R 081125Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7778
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION NATO
USDOCOSOUTH
USDOCOALSE
CINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 4395

USEEC

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, TU, GR
SUBJECT: TURKISH VIEW OF PARIS TALKS BETWEEN TURKEY AND GREECE
OVER AEGEAN PROBLEMS

REF: ANKARA 3370 (DTG 031300Z MAY 77)
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1. AT CONCLUSION OF DISCUSSION ON ANOTHER SUBJECT JUNE 6
(SEPTEL), MFA INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS DIRECTOR
SOYLEMEZ VOLUNTEERED TO EMBOFFS HIS IMPRESSIONS OF TURKISH-
GREEK AEGEAN NEGOTIATIONS IN PARIS, FROM WHICH HE HAD RETURNED
THE PRECEDING DAY. SOYLEMEZ CHARACTERIZED THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE
MEETINGS AS GOOD AND NOTED WITH PLEASURE THAT "FOR THE FIRST

TIME WE STARTED POLITICAL NEGOTIATIONS" ON THE AEGEAN QUESTION. HE SAID THAT THE TURKISH SIDE WAS SOMEWHAT SURPRISED AT THIS DEVELOPMENT, HAVING ORIGINALLY SUSPECTED THAT THE GREEKS HAD ONLY AGREED TO A MEETING IN ORDER TO FORESTALL ANY FURTHER PETROLEUM EXPLORATION BY THE TURKISH SHIP SISMIK-I (HORA).

2. SOYLEMEZ SAID THAT THE GREEKS HAD GIVEN THE TURKS A TWO-PART "MESSAGE FOR THE NEW GOVERNMENT": (A) FOR THE FIRST TIME THE GREEKS AGREED THAT TURKEY HAS CONTINENTAL SHELF RIGHTS IN THE AEGEAN, AND (B) THE GREEKS WOULD LIKE TO NEGOTIATE THE AEGEAN ISSUES WITH THE NEW TURKISH GOVERNMENT TO BE FORMED FOLLOWING THE JUNE 5 ELECTIONS. SOYLEMEZ SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THERE HAD BEEN NO COMMUNIQUE AT THE END OF THE PARIS TALKS, THERE HAD BEEN "EXTENSIVE EXCHANGES, ALL IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION," PARTICULARLY DURING THREE LONG TETE-A-TETE MEETINGS BETWEEN THE TWO DELEGATION LEADERS. MAP DISCUSSIONS ALSO TOOK PLACE, HE SAID, WITH "POINTING OF FINGERS RATHER THAN DRAWING OF LINES." FURTHER TALKS ARE TO TAKE PLACE SOME TIME AFTER THE NEW TURKISH GOVERNMENT IS ESTABLISHED.

3. SOYLEMEZ SAID THAT WHILE THE GREEK PROPOSAL WAS NOT AN IDEAL SOLUTION, IT WOULD BE A GOOD STARTING POINT FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS. HE EXPRESSED GRATIFICATION THAT THE GREEKS HAD NOT INSISTED ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EXPERTS' COMMITTEE, ADDING THAT THE IDEA MIGHT STILL BE USEFUL AT A LATER POINT AND COULD BE USED THEN.

4. JUNE 6 PRESS TREATMENT OF THE TALKS WAS ON SIMILARLY
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POSITIVE LINES. CONSERVATIVE TERCUMAN QUOTED TURKISH DELEGATION LEADER BILGE AS STATING THAT A MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY SETTLEMENT CAN BE REACHED WITHIN THREE MONTHS. LEFTISH CUMHURIYET CREDITED WESTERN (PARTICULARLY AMERICAN) PRESSURE AS HAVING BEEN BEHIND THE MORE MODERATE GREEK STANCE. MACOMBER

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